

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society is deeply concerned regarding a proposed Federal Communications Commission regulation regarding a national "do not call" registry that would severely hinder the ability of legitimate nonprofit and charitable organizations like the Society to raise funds.

The decision not to exempt professional fundraisers working for legitimate nonprofit and charitable organizations and restricting access to previous contributors who may inadvertently subscribe to the "do not call" registry, would drastically cut our revenues and limit the Society's ability to find a cure for blood cancers and improve the quality of life for the hundreds of thousands of people who suffer with these diseases.

Like many other charitable organizations, the Society contracts with professionals to conduct fundraising calls on their behalf to ensure cost savings and professionalism. These professional fundraisers allow us to focus on our mission rather than spend time and money purchasing and maintaining expensive equipment, training personnel and acquiring an extensive knowledge of state regulations.

At a time when the President and Congress are emphasizing the importance of the services provided by charitable organizations, it's very important that they be able to raise the money necessary to fulfill their mission. Government should seek to assist and encourage the efforts of nonprofits to raise funds from the private sector, not place obstacles in front of them.